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reform has been in large part due to the perfection of business methods in the country at large and the consequent demand for the application of the same principles to the conduct of affairs of government.

The place that civil service reform has come to occupy in our political system is indicated by the wealth of material bearing on the subject. The selected, classified and annotated bibliography fills thirteen pages in Mr. Fish's work,—a list that would have given courage to the early reformers could they have foreseen it. An unfortunate omission is that of *Harper's Weekly*,—under the able editorship of George William Curtis it must share equally with the *Nation* (p. 261) the credit of effective promotion of civil service reform.

It is to be regretted that the name of so valiant a champion of the reform movement as Mr. George McAneny should be almost unrecognizable on p. 227 and in the index, that the American Historical Association should appear as the American Historical Society (pp. 253, 265), and that a careless proof-reading (p. 254) should change the nationality of the distinguished Von Holst. The letter of Mrs. Graham to Washington (footnote, p. 80) is an interesting one, but the extract given is quite obscure without accompanying explanation,—“that sketch of a democratical government” refers to a tract addressed by Mrs. Graham to Paoli.

L. M. S.

Our Navy and the Barbary Corsairs. By GARDNER W. ALLEN. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Company. 1905. Pp. xiii, 354.)

MR. ALLEN'S book treats of the relations of the United States with the Barbary Powers from 1794, when the United States made its first effective preparations for war, until 1816, when its last war with a Barbary state ended. Introductory to this main part of the book, are brief but excellent historical accounts of the White Slavery in the Barbary States, the Early American Captives in Barbary, and the First Negotiations of the United States with the Barbary States, covering the period from 1776 to 1793. This introduction comprises forty-eight pages. The relations between the United States and the Barbary Powers from 1794 to 1800 comprise forty-three pages; from 1801 to 1805, one hundred and eighty-one pages; and from 1806 to 1816, twenty-nine pages. Two pages of comment close the volume. It is thus seen that three-fifths of the book treats of the period from 1801 to 1805. This large space, however, is not out of proportion, since our relations with the Barbary States during Jefferson's first administration were more extensive and complicated than during any other period of our history. The chief event of the period from 1801 to 1805 treated by Mr. Allen is of course the war with Tripoli. The capture of the *Philadelphia* by the Tripolitans, its destruction by the Americans, and Eaton's capture of Derne, each a most dramatic and picturesque incident, form the subjects of separate chapters. The author's account of Commodore Preble's attack on Tripoli covers rather familiar ground. In the period of 1794–1800 Mr. Allen

has found material for an interesting chapter on the "impressment" of the American naval ship, *George Washington*, and its voyage to Constantinople on an errand of the Dey of Algiers. Other subjects of this period that are treated are the treaties of peace with Algiers, Tripoli, and Tunis. The chief event of the last period is the war with Algiers during 1815 and 1816.

Mr. Allen's facts are in general, although by no means entirely, either of a naval or of a diplomatic character. The naval information naturally exceeds the diplomatic. He has chiefly drawn his naval information from the manuscripts of the Navy Department and the Library of Congress, books on the lives of naval officers, naval histories, and Goldsborough's *Naval Chronicle*. He has based his diplomatic history largely upon the *American State Papers*, Wait's *State Papers and Publick Documents*, Eaton's and Felton's *Life of Eaton*, Cathcart's letters, the *Writings* of Jefferson, and Shaler's *Sketches of Algiers*. These by no means exhaust the list of Mr. Allen's authorities, which he publishes in the appendix in the form of an excellent bibliographical note with explanatory remarks. By means of appropriate foot-notes the author throughout the volume indicates the sources of his information. By abbreviating the names of his authorities he has brought his foot-notes within a small compass, and thereby has indulged the sensibilities of the popular reader.

The author has based his narrative solidly and closely upon his sources of information, which he uses with discrimination and judgment. His numerous quotations and his adequate foot-notes and bibliography give complete confidence in his accuracy and painstaking care. His conclusions and comments are conservative and well-balanced. One sometimes wishes that there were more of them, and that the author had injected a larger subjective element into his objective narrative. A reader often demands of an historian his conclusions as well as the evidence upon which they are to be based.

Our Navy and the Barbary Corsairs is a good example of a book that is scientific and at the same time popular. It is popular by reason of the dramatic quality of the information that it contains. Its interest lies in the intrinsic interest of its facts. The narrative is plain, simple, and straightforward. The author has employed none of the allurements of style in order to catch and hold the attention of the dull or indifferent reader. His language is clear and acceptable.

In addition to a bibliography the appendix contains a synopsis of the early treaties between the United States and the Barbary Powers, a list of vessels and officers serving in the Mediterranean during the war with Tripoli, the casualties in Commodore Preble's squadron, a letter of the Dey of Algiers to President Madison dated April 24, 1816, and a letter of President Madison to the Dey dated August 21, 1816.

CHARLES OSCAR PAULLIN.